

Minutes from the XI Quadrennial General Meeting
of the International Association for Mission Studies
Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th August, 2004
Regency Hotel, Port Dickson, Malaysia

Presiding: Paulo Sues
Moderator: John Roxborough

Agenda:

- 1. Reports**
 - General Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Editor Mission Studies
- 2. Amendment of IAMS Constitution and Byelaws for the General Meeting**
- 3. Approval of Officers: General Secretary, Treasurer, Editor**
- 4. Elections: President and vice-president and executive committee**
- 5. Future of the IAMS Secretariat**
- 6. Membership Fee for 2005-2008**
- 7. Suggestions for venue and theme of the next IAMS Conference**
- 8. Any other business**

1. Reports

Documents: General Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Editor's Report

Background: The IAMS Constitution section §6 requires that at the General Meeting receive reports from the Executive on the activities of the Association since the previous meeting and proposals for advancing the objects of the Association.

Discussion The General Secretary, Birger Nygaard, the retiring Treasurer Andrew Kirk, and the retiring Editor, Stephen Bevans, presented their reports which had been circulated.

Participants in the general meeting drew attention to the following issues:

- Further to its academic constituency, the association should have a keen attention on the need for missiological reflection in mission agencies and among mission practitioners who do not find it easy to see the relevance of mission studies to their work.
- IAMS should do its utmost to secure funding for participants from countries where it is unrealistic for candidates to obtain funds themselves.
- More information on the new secretariat was wanted. However, this was not possible as a final agreement has not yet been made. The executive anticipates that the new secretariat will be announced by October 2004.
- More clarity is needed regarding payments to Brill for more than one year at a time. This is important for those who need to make four year payments while present at the Conference.

The Book Review Editor requested that members interested in doing reviews for Mission Studies go to www.missionsstudies.org and see what books are available for review.

Resolutions: The General Meeting received the reports from General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor

2. Amendment of IAMS Constitution and Byelaws for the General Meeting

Documents: Proposals for the amendment of Constitution and General Meeting Byelaws prepared by the Executive and circulated with Conference documents.

Background: Although their intention and values reflected the ethos of IAMS, the election rules used at previous general meetings have made election procedures more difficult than they need to be. The executive committee spent some time working through the Constitution and Byelaws in preparing new proposals. They also proposed that Oceania be separated from the Asian region to form a distinct region.

Discussion The background to the suggested changes to constitution and byelaws was given by Bill Burrows together with an explanation how the proposed changes would operate. Questions of clarification were answered.

Resolutions: The proposed changes to the Byelaws for the General Meeting were unanimously approved as suggested.

The proposed changes to the Constitution were unanimously approved as suggested.

The New Constitution and Byelaws for the General Meeting are attached.

3. Approval of Officers: General Secretary, Treasurer, Editor

Documents:

Background: As indicated by section §5 of the Constitution, the General Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor are selected by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Meeting.

Discussion

Resolutions: Birger Nygaard was unanimously approved as General Secretary IAMS pending the new appointment to be announced.

Allan Anderson was unanimously approved as Treasurer of IAMS.

Lalsangkima Pachuau was unanimously approved as Editor of Mission Studies.

4. Elections: President and Vice-president and Executive Committee

Documents:

Background: The Nomination Committee including those appointed by the Regional Meetings comprised: Paulo Suess (Chair), Emilio Monti (Latin America), John Nkola (Africa); Ross Langmead (Oceania), Lalsangkima Pachuau (Asia), Andrew Kirk (Europe), Bill Burrows (North America).

Following to the new Byelaws and Constitution, the Nomination Committee presented one slate of candidates for election as President, Vice-President and Executive Committee members.

Discussion

Resolutions: The General Meeting unanimously approved the slate for President, Vice-President and Executive Committee members.

The elected members of the new executive were:

President: Darrell Whiteman

Vice-President: Philomena Mwaura (Africa)

Hwa Yung (Asia)

Sr. Susan Smith (Oceania)

Tito Paredes (Latin America)

Jonathan Bonk (North America)

Anne-Marie Kool (Europe)

5. Future Location of the IAMS Secretariat

Documents:

Background: As reported in the oral part of the General Secretary's Report negotiations with a new host for the secretariat and a new General Secretary candidate were in process, and if concluded with a positive result, an announcement can be expected by October 2004.

Discussion It was explained that this was a similar situation to that four years ago, when negotiations had not been concluded at the time of the Conference. The negotiations and decisions were handled by the Executive.

6. Membership Fee for 2005-2008

Documents:

Background: The incoming Treasurer, Allan Anderson, presented the Executive Committee's proposals for Membership Fees for 2005-2008.

Discussion Concern was expressed that while the proposed Corporate membership fee addressed the situation of Regional and Denominational Mission Studies and Missiology Associations who wished to be members of IAMS, the amount was unrealistically low in view of what funding corporate members were likely to be willing to contribute. It was recognised that IAMS needs to be more active in dialogue with both groups of partners. It was suggested that a two tier-system should be developed for corporate members. It was also felt that an Associate Member category is still needed for persons and institutions who do not qualify for ordinary membership of the association.

The General Secretary responded that the Executive Committee needs to look into the Corporate Member category further, and as well as being active during the next four years, come back at the next assembly with a clearer vision about the rationale and contributions of this category.

Resolutions: **The following membership fee structure was carried:**

Membership Fees for 2005-2008

Normal Individual Members	US\$ 35
Individual Member from Developing Countries and Students	US\$ 20
Corporate Members with an income under US\$ 500.000	US\$ 120
Corporate Members with an income over US\$ 500.000	US\$ 300

The Executive was given the power to apply the lower fee for any corporate member where circumstances suggest this is necessary.

The Executive was requested to report back to the next General Meeting on the Corporate Member category (who are they? why this category? function in the association, etc.)

7. Suggestions for venue and theme of the next IAMS Conference

Documents: Invitation by The Church of Scotland and University of Edinburgh to play a role in the upcoming 2010 Edinburgh Conference centenary
 Invitation by the Central And Eastern European Association for Mission Studies (CEEAMS) to host the next IAMS General Assembly.

Background: The actual decision about the time and place for the next Assembly will be taken by the executive. The concerns and ideas of the meeting will be noted.

Discussion An extended discussion took place regarding how to respond to the two invitations. In general the meeting signalled that both invitations should be responded to positively.

Resolutions: The following decisions were agreed:

That the assembly recommend that the executive accept the invitation of the CEEAMS/Protestant Institute for Mission Studies to host the next IAMS international conference in Budapest;

That the assembly recommend that the executive accept the invitation extended by The Church of Scotland and the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-western World at the University of Edinburgh to play an active supporting role in the processes being planned leading up to the celebration of the 2010 centenary of the Edinburgh 1910 conference.

7. Any other Business

7.1 Honorary Life Membership of IAMS

The General Secretary noted that in the period 2000-2004 the following persons were awarded honorary life membership of IAMS:

Dr. John Pobee, Ghana, IAMS President 1988-1992
 Dr. Arnulf Camps, The Netherlands, Founding member. IAMS President 1974-1978
 Dr. Gerald Anderson, USA, IAMS President 1982-1985
 Dr. Joan Chatfield, USA, IAMS President 1985-1988
 Dr. Andrew F. Walls, Scotland, IAMS General Secretary 1974 - 1976
 Dr. Frans J. Verstraelen, The Netherlands, IAMS General Secretary 1976 - 1986
 Dr. René Padilla, Argentina
 Dr. Willem Saayman, South Africa

7.2 Information from the Council for World Mission and Evangelism of the WCC:

Jacques Matthey invited

- 1) Members of IAMS to respond to the CWME *Healing and Reconciliation* document (see www.mission2005.org)
- 2) Members of IAMS to assist in finding young missiologists under 35 years of age for a conference in Rome 19-25. January 2005 for young missiologists (contact jem@wcc-coe.org).

Constitution of the International Association for Mission Studies (IAMS)

1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be „The International Association for Mission Studies“ (hereafter referred to as the Association).

2. OBJECTIVES

The Association is an international, interdenominational and intercultural body committed to the scholarly study of issues related to Christian mission.

The main objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) to promote the scholarly study of theological, historical and practical questions relating to the mission of the Church;
- (b) to disseminate information concerning mission among all those engaged in such studies and among the general public;
- (c) to relate studies in mission to studies in theological and other disciplines, through the encouragement of interdisciplinary research programmes and other appropriate means;
- (d) to promote fellowship, cooperation and mutual assistance in mission studies, especially among national, regional and denominational mission study associations and equivalents.
- (e) to organize international conferences of missiologists;
- (f) to encourage the creation of centres of research;
- (g) to stimulate publications in the area of the Association's interest, including an international journal and bibliography.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Individuals, institutions and likeminded associations and networks wishing to further the aims of the association may be admitted to the Association by vote of the Executive Committee.

4. FINANCE

The resources of the Association consist of:

- (a) Subscriptions from members,
- (b) Subsidies and donations.

Every member shall pay an annual subscription determined from time to time by a General Meeting of the Association.

5. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, a Treasurer, and the Editor of the journal of the Association. The President and Vice President shall be elected, and the General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor shall be approved by a General Meeting of the Association for a period of four years or until the General Meeting next after the expiry of that period.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers with five other members elected by a

General Meeting of the Association to represent continental regions for a period of four years or until the General Meeting next after the expiry of that period.

The Executive shall normally meet once a year. Officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-election. The elections shall be governed by byelaws.

6. GENERAL MEETING

The Executive Committee shall convene a General Meeting of the Association about every four years.

All individual members, and one representative of each corporate member, shall have the right to attend and vote at General Meetings of the Association.

At each ordinary General Meeting the Executive Committee shall submit for the approval of the Meeting a report of its activities since the last ordinary General Meeting and its proposals for advancing the objects of the Association.

7. HEADQUARTERS

The Executive Committee shall have the power to determine the location of the Headquarters of the Association. Usually, the location of the General Secretariat is regarded as the Headquarters of the Association.

8. FUNDS

The funds of the Association shall be held in the United Kingdom but if at any time the members resolve at a General Meeting that the funds should not be so held the Executive Committee shall inform the Charity Commissioners of the terms of the resolution.

9. BYELAWS

Byelaws may be approved by a majority of members present and voting at any duly constituted General Meeting of the Association.

10. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Additions and alterations to the Constitution shall be made only by resolution of the General Meeting, carried by a majority of not less than two thirds of those voting. No amendment may be made which shall cause the Association to cease to be a charity in law.

Adopted 29 August 1972

Amended 31 July 1974

Amended 24 August 1978

Amended 28 January 2000

Amended by the XIth Quadrennial General Assembly, 3. August 2004

Byelaws: General Meeting of the Association

A. Procedure for the election of President, Vice President, and other members of the Executive Committee

1. Setting up of a Nomination Committee

The election process will be guided by an Nomination Committee comprising the following persons:

- the outgoing President of IAMS together with one representative from each of the regions of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America/Caribbean, North America and Oceania, nominated by Regional Meetings in their first session.

The Nomination Committee will constitute itself after the first regional meeting. It will elect its own chair. It may, if deemed necessary, seek the advice of the previous Executive Committee.

2. Preparation of Slate for the Election of President, Vice President and Executive Committee

The Nomination Committee will from names proposed by the Regional Meetings plus the current Vice-President prepare one slate of candidates for consideration by the General Meeting for the positions of President, Vice-President, and five Executive Committee members.

The current Vice-President will normally be nominated for President. However the General Meeting may request the Nomination Committee to propose an alternative.

The six regional areas are represented by the Vice-President and five Executive Committee members.

2.1. Proposals from Regional Meetings

Regional Meetings are required to nominate three persons to be considered for election to the Executive Committee. These are to be listed and take into account the criteria listed in 2.2.

Regional Meetings must obtain the consent of persons they propose for election.

The Nomination Committee has the right to return to all the Regional Meetings to request an additional person be proposed by each region.

2.2. Criteria

Regional Meetings and the Nominating Committee are required to ensure that those proposed for election and included in the final slate of candidates represent a good mix and balance of persons, taking into account considerations relating to continuity, geographical and denominational representation, gender, skills, regional leadership and availability to participate in the work of IAMS.

3. Voting process

The Nomination Committee will present its nominated slate at a General Meeting of IAMS.

3.1. Right to vote

Only full IAMS members present at the conference are eligible to vote and to stand as candidates for election.

Corporate member of IAMS, represented in the Conference, have one vote.

Each individual person has only one vote, either as individual member of IAMS or as representative of a corporate member.

3.2. Secret ballot

The voting will be conducted by means of a secret ballot.

3.3. Majority

The IAMS General Meeting is entitled, by simple majority vote of members present at the meeting, to accept or reject the slate proposed by the Nomination Committee. The meeting may also make suggestions and require the Nomination Committee to present an amended slate.

Adopted by the XI Quadrennial Assembly, Malaysia, 3. August 2004